

### **REMARKS**

Claims 71-100 remain pending. By the foregoing amendment, claims 31-50 and 70 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and new claims 71-100 have been added. Claims 71-100 correspond to originally-filed claims 1-30. Support for new claims 71-100 is found throughout the specification, particularly originally-filed claims 1-30. No new matter is added.

Claims 31-50 and 70 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claims 31 and 38-46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Huizinga U.S. Patent 5,001,325 (“Huizinga”). Claims 32-37, 49, 50, and 70 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huizinga in view of Schlaeppi EP 596,747 A1 (“Schlaeppi”). By the foregoing amendment, claims 31-50 and 70 have been cancelled and therefore each of these rejections is now moot.

New claims 71-100 are allowable over the prior art of record. Huizinga is cited as describing a flexible thermoplastic polymeric film having a plurality of layers and a laser-scored line disposed in the machine and transverse directions in a first surface of the film. Schlaeppi is cited as disclosing an outer layer of oriented polypropylene or a barrier layer such as metal foil for the purpose of providing a multilayer flexible packaging film. The film is said to have a scored pattern etched into a first layer but not a second layer to effect easy opening of the package.

None of the cited documents, whether taken alone or in any combination, describes or suggests a package for a product having the particular combination of features set forth in independent claims 71, 80, or 89, or a method of making or using a package having the particular combination of steps set forth in independent claims 98, 99, or 100. For example, none of the

documents describes or suggests a package having a score line that traces a path from above a recloseable feature at the edges to below the recloseable feature between the edges.

A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below if doing so would be helpful to resolve any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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